

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: I shall now briefly explain this. There is a statement of objects and reasons attached to the Bill and I think the honourable members have perused it. The principle is explained there. The present Bill is intended to make the law up to date to bring it into line with the law in operation in British India.

The principle being accepted, the motion was put to vote and passed.

The Secretary then read the title of the Bill.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: Sir, I beg to move that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee consisting of members to be named just now, namely, Messrs. M. Govindan, J. John Kattakayam, Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi, M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai, K. Rama Varma Raja, K. K. Thomas, S. Adam Sait, V. S. Arumukham Pillai and K. Padmanabhan Panickar, the Committee to report on the Bill within 4 months.

MR. R. DHANUKOTI PILLAI: I second it.

The motion was carried.

#### DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS.

CHAIRMAN: The House will now proceed to consider the Demands for Supplementary Grants.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI: Sir, I move for a grant not exceeding Rs. 2,000 under Demand—Medical. This amount is required to meet the cost of laying pipes from the Science College to the General Hospital for the supply of gas to the various wards and the Clinical Laboratory in the Hospital. At present there is no gas supply to the General Hospital, and for heating purposes stoves are used now. The Darbar Physician brought to the notice of Government the desirability of supplying gas and he suggested that if Government could only incur an initial expenditure of about Rs. 2,000, this urgent need of the General Hospital could be met.

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI: May I know from the member whether there is any supply of electric power to the General Hospital?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI: Yes.

Gas is wanted for heating purposes and it is now produced in the plant within the Fort and is supplied to the Science College for use in the Laboratory there. Those who have had occasion to work in Laboratories know the necessity for gas there. All that Government have now to do is to connect the Science College and the General Hospital by pipes and the Hospital can then get all the gas it wants. By doing so, Government have only to incur the initial expenditure. The recurring cost will not be more than what it is at present. Even now they have to purchase kerosine oil and new stoves. All this could be saved and the expenditure incurred on that account could be utilised for the production of gas.

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MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI: May I know whether electric power will not serve the purpose of gas power?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI: It will be more expensive than gas. We have a gas plant within the Fort and gas is being supplied to the College. If only we lay pipes and connect the College and the Hospital the supply can be made very easily. I may probably mention here one objection which was raised in the Lower House. It was asked whether this matter was so urgent as to justify a motion for a supplementary grant. Could not this matter wait for another two or three months and provision included in the Budget for the coming year. My answer was this. As far as the wards are concerned, we may probably wait but there is the Clinical Laboratory where gas is absolutely necessary. The Clinical Laboratory was started only recently long after the Budget for the current year was prepared. It will certainly be very desirable to supply gas as early as possible without waiting for another three months. The Durbar Physician brought this matter to the notice of Government and they have decided to ask for a supplementary grant of Rs. 2,000. I hope the House will allow it.

The demand was put to the vote of the House and unanimously passed.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: Sir, I move for a supplementary grant of Rs. 614 for the continuance of the additional division of the B. L. class in the Trivandrum Law college. Sir, last year the strength of this class was somewhere about 300 and it has been felt that 300 in a class cannot be properly managed. It was therefore divided into two divisions. It is proposed that these two divisions be continued in the forthcoming academic year too. If it is continued, additional Lecturers will be required and also one additional peon. This demand represents the amount required for the pay of the additional Lecturers and the additional peon for the rest of the Malabar year.

MR. M. N. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: May I know whether applications have been received from candidates for admission to the Law College now?

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: I do not know whether applications have been received but it is expected that about the same number of applications as was received last year may be received this year also. It is on that ground that the Principal has recommended that the two divisions may be continued.

MR. M. N. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: May I know on what basis the Principal has recommended before he has received applications?

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: In the previous year he had nearly 300 students and he knows whether he can expect the same number this year also. If, contrary to the Principal's expectation, there are not more than 150 students coming forward, it is open to Government not to expend this amount.

The demand was put to the vote of the House and unanimously passed.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI: Sir, I move for a supplementary grant of Rs. 245 under Demand-General Administration. This is, Sir, for payment to the staff engaged by the Special Officer who was placed on special duty to prepare notes on various subjects. He was required to prepare notes on the standardisation of the salaries of officers as recommended by the Retrenchment Committee, on the formation of a common cadre of officers, the institution of a civil service in Travancore and last but not least on the recommendations of the Public Service Recruitment Committee. This Special Officer and his staff were engaged for nearly 3 months and they have finished their work. For the first two months the staff has already been paid, the expenses for the purpose being authorised under Section 32 of the Legislative Reforms Regulation. As it was urgent Government sanctioned that expenditure and I believe it has been included in the statement placed on the table. But subsequent to that, for about three weeks from the 9th Medam to the end of Medam, the staff has not been paid. Government did not want to authorise that expenditure under Section 32 because the Legislatures were meeting early in Edavam and they thought it advisable to move for a small grant of Rs. 245 for paying the staff for about 21 days in the month of Medam.

MR. M. N. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: May I know whether that officer has submitted any report to Government?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI: Yes, he has.

MR. KOMILEZHATHU SANKARAN (*Nominated*): May I know from the member whether Government have asked the Standardisation Officer to suggest measures for the standardisation of the pay or whether he has been asked to go through the report of the Public Service Recruitment Committee.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI: He was asked to make suggestions for the standardization of the pay of officers and also to go through the recommendations of the Public Service Recruitment Committee and prepare elaborate notes thereon for the consideration of Government and he has done both.

MR. KOMILEZHATHU SANKARAN: May I know whether the whole report has been placed before him or only the recommendations of some of the persons?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI: The whole printed report was placed before him.

MR. M. N. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: May I know why that report of the Standardisation Officer is withheld from being considered by this Council?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI: He has only submitted notes for the consideration of Government and they have not yet considered them but hope to do so as early as possible. Government do not think it necessary to place them before the House.

MR. M. N. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: May I know what are the recommendations of that officer with regard to the recommendations of the Public Service Recruitment Committee?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI: The recommendations are under consideration. At this stage I am not in a position to say what those recommendations are.

MR. M. N. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: May I take it that the report of the Standardisation Officer will be of no use to this House in considering the report of the Public Service Recruitment Committee?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI: Government have decided not to place that report before the House.

MR. KOMILEZHATHU SANKARAN: May I know what induced the Government to place the report of the Public Service Recruitment Committee before the Standardisation Officer for consideration before it has been placed before this House for discussion?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI: For their guidance Government wanted one of their officers to examine the report minutely and prepare notes. They have not come to any decision either on the recommendations of the committee or on the notes of the Special Officer. They will consider them only after the recommendations of the committee have been discussed by this House. Sir, in moving for this small grant of Rs. 245 Government have before their mind a special object which I wish to bring to the notice of the House and that is to place the report of the Public Service Recruitment Committee before the House so as to give an opportunity to the honourable members to discuss it.

MR. KOMILEZHATHU SANKARAN: May I know whether the Standardisation Officer in preparing his report will take into consideration the trend of discussion in this House?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI: The Standardisation Officer has already prepared his report and the discussion in this House will be borne in mind by Government.

I only wish to inform the House that Government, on a previous occasion when they wanted to ascertain the views of the honourable members of this House on the report of the Education Reforms Committee, resorted to a similar course of action. They brought a motion for a supplementary grant and allowed the honourable members to discuss the recommendations of that committee. Government have now decided to adopt the same course in regard to the recommendations of the Public Service Recruitment Committee also. They want to avail themselves of this opportunity to invite the criticisms and the mature views of the honourable members on the weighty and valuable recommendations of the committee.

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI: May I know whether the criticisms made in this House will not further bewilder the Government?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI: Well, the honourable member is probably referring to my speech in the Lower House. I will deal with it after the honourable members of this house have finished their deliberation.

It is not necessary that I should go into the various recommendations of the committee at all because Government have not made up their mind one way or the other in regard to them. They have got an open mind now and are perfectly willing to note all the views and opinions that may be expressed by the honourable members of this House and consider them very carefully.

MR. K. K. THOMAS: May I know how much the committee has cost to Government.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI: I am sorry I have not got the figures. If the honourable member will send up an interpellation later on I will be able to answer it.

What I wish to say is that the committee have very carefully considered the terms of reference made to them by Government and have dealt with them very elaborately in the various chapters of their report. At the end of it they have given a summary of their recommendations which, of course, have already received a certain amount of criticisms from the public and the press as well as from the honourable members of the Lower House. I would earnestly request all honourable members of this House to examine the recommendations of the committee and express their views on them for the benefit of the Government.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: Sir, if the members are not ready to continue the debate now, we may adjourn.

CHAIRMAN: I would like to know the general view of the members on the question whether they want to start the discussion on the report of the Public Service Recruitment Committee now or they would like to have it postponed to tomorrow.

MR. M. GOVINDAN: We would like to have it tomorrow.

The House adjourned at 3-30 P. M.

P. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI,  
*Secretary to the Sri Chitra State Council.*